

**FIRE SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 21, 2019**

The Fire Service Commission held a meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at the Department of Fire Services, Boards and Commissions Room, Stow, Massachusetts.

Present at the meeting were the following Commission members:

Chief Gregory J. Burns
Captain Michael McCullough
Chief Alan J. Roy
FF Richard D. MacKinnon, Jr.
Ms. Roberta Fitzpatrick
Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe

There were no absent Commission members.

DFS staff present at the meeting:

State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey
Deputy State Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier
General Counsel Steven Rourke
Glenn Rooney
JoAnne Caruso

There were no guests present.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Chief Greg Burns at 10:05 a.m.

AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes of the October 24, 2019 Meeting

A motion was made by Chief Burns and seconded by Chief Roy and Firefighter McKinnon that the minutes of October 24, 2019, meeting be approved as written.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Credentialing/Re-Credentialing Process

A motion was made by Captain McCullough and seconded by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe and Firefighter McKinnon to award re-accreditation to the following:

1. Re-Credentialing –
 - Chief Keith Robie – Ashland Fire Department
 - Chief Patrick Sullivan – Lunenburg Fire Department
 - Chief Andre Theriault – Ipswich Fire Department
 - Chief David White – Northbridge Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. New Business – FCAM on the issue of re-credentialing

The Commission reviewed the “Report and Recommendations of the FCAM Re-Credentialing Task Force”.

Following a lengthy review of each of the eighteen recommendations reported by FCAM’s Task Force, the Commission agreed to undertake the following recommendations; expand opportunities for Chiefs, clarification of processes and policies, look at reciprocity, review credit application, review re-credential application, a summary report by rank of credentialed & re-credentialed department members, review training requests, and consider a working group. The Commission will update FCAM/FCAM’s Task Force appropriately.

A motion was made by Chief Burns and seconded by Chief Roy to agree to the proposed process and to review the application documentation at the next scheduled meeting.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

D. General Issues and Updates from DFS

Marshal Ostroskey gave updates on the grants for washer/extractors and gear which should be approved by the Governor’s office and issued soon. The Bridgewater campus will open with fourteen recruits beginning in January and another fourteen beginning in April.

The Department received a “Notice of Responsibility” from the Department of Environmental Protection in regard to “PFAS” although the source is unknown at this point. DFS has met with local officials to ensure transparency as DFS remediates the issue. DFS hired a “Licensed Site Professional” (LSP) an internal review concluded that we no longer use PFAS in training. The Marshal has assured staff and the Commission that DFS is not contributing to the problem and we are approaching the remediation quickly and diligently.

Finally the Firefighter of the Year Awards will be held in Worcester at Mechanic’s Hall on November 26, 2019 at 11:00am.

E. Determination of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The date of the next meeting of the Fire Service Commission is tentatively scheduled on December 19th at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Fire Services, Boards and Commissions Room.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chief Burns and seconded by Firefighter McKinnon.

Said motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

The meeting of the Fire Service Commission concluded at 12:02 p.m.